SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Fees for the BATS One Market Data Product

March 27, 2015.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on March 17, 2015, EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “EDGX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a member due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Act3 and Rule 19b–4(f)(2) thereunder,4 which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend the market data section of its fee schedule to: (i) Establish a Digital Media Enterprise Fee for the BATS One Feed; and (ii) make a non-substantive change to the description of the BATS One Feed Enterprise fee.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange’s Web site at www.batstrading.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend the market data section of its fee schedule to: (i) Establish a Digital Media Enterprise Fee for the BATS One Feed; and (ii) make a non-substantive change to the description of the BATS One Feed Enterprise fee.

The Commission recently approved a proposed rule change by the Exchange to establish a new market data product called the BATS One Feed5 as well as published proposed rule changes to establish related fees.6 The BATS One Feed is a data feed that disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate best bid and offer (“BBO”) of all displayed orders for securities traded on EDGX and its affiliated exchanges7 and for the NASDAQ/UTP Plan.8 The BATS One Feed also contains the individual last sale information for the BATS Exchanges (collectively with the aggregate BBO, the “BATS One Summary Feed”). Non-Professional Users are assessed a fee of $0.50 per user for the BATS One Summary Feed or $0.50 per user for the BATS One Premium Feed. External Distributors must count External Distributors of an Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.9

12 The Exchange assesses a monthly fee for Professional Users of $10.00 per User for receipt of the BATS One Summary Feed or $15.00 per User who elects to also receive the BATS One Premium Feed. Non-Professional Users are assessed a monthly fee of $0.25 per user for the BATS One Summary Feed or $0.50 per user for the BATS One Premium Feed. External Distributors must count every Professional User and Non-Professional User to which they provide BATS One Feed data. See BATS One Fee Proposals, supra note 6.

As defined in the Exchange’s fee schedule, a Non-Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person, a proprietorship, corporation, partnership, or entity, or device (computer or other automated service), that is entitled to receive Exchange data. A Non-Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person who is not: (i) Registered or qualified in any capacity with the Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii) engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 201(11) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (whether or not registered under that Act); (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt. A Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is any User other than a Non-Professional User.

12 The Data Consolidation Fee is $1,000 per month and is designed to reflect the value of the aggregation and consolidation function the Exchange performs in creating the BATS One Feed. See BATS One Fee Proposals, supra note 6.

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule to establish a Digital Media Enterprise Fee of $15,000 per month for the BATS One Summary Feed and $25,000 per month for the BATS One Premium Feed. As an alternative to User fees, a reciprocating firm may purchase a monthly Digital Media Enterprise license to receive the BATS One Feed from an External Distributor10 to: (i) Distribute to an unlimited number of Professional and Non-Professional Users11 for viewing via television, Web sites, and mobile devices for informational and non-trading purposes only without having to account for the extent of access to the data or the report the number of Users to the Exchange. The Digital Media Enterprise Fee would be in addition to the Data Consolidation Fee.12

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7 EDGX’s affiliated exchanges are BATS Exchange, Inc. (“BZX”), BATS Y-Exchange, Inc. (“BYX”), and EDGA Exchange, Inc. (“EDGA”), together with EDGX, BZX, and BYX, the “BATS Exchanges”.
8 The Data Consolidation Fee is $1,000 per month for the BATS One Feed and $3,000 per month for the BATS One Premium Feed.
9 As defined in the Exchange’s fee schedule, an External Distributor of an Exchange Market Data product is a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.
10 As defined in the Exchange’s fee schedule, a User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person, a proprietorship, corporation, partnership, or entity, or device (computer or other automated service), that is entitled to receive Exchange data. A Non-Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person who is not: (i) Registered or qualified in any capacity with the Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii) engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 201(11) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (whether or not registered under that Act); (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt. A Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is any User other than a Non-Professional User.
11 As defined in the Exchange’s fee schedule, a User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person, a proprietorship, corporation, partnership, or entity, or device (computer or other automated service), that is entitled to receive Exchange data. A Non-Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is a natural person who is not: (i) Registered or qualified in any capacity with the Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii) engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 201(11) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (whether or not registered under that Act); (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt. A Professional User of an Exchange Market Data product is any User other than a Non-Professional User.
Non-Substantive Change to the Description of the BATS One Enterprise Fee

The Exchange proposes a non-substantive change to the description of the BATS One Enterprise fee. The fee schedule currently states that, “[a]s an alternative to User fees, a recipient firm may purchase a monthly Enterprise Fee to receive the BATS One Feed from an External Distributor for an unlimited number of Professional and Non-Professional Users.” The Exchange proposes to amend this sentence in two ways. The first amendment is to state that a recipient firm may purchase a monthly Enterprise license, rather than Enterprise fee, as the term “license” is a more accurate description. The second is to specify that the recipient firm purchasing a monthly enterprise license does so for the BATS One Feed to an unlimited number of Professional and Non-Professional Users.

2. Statutory Basis

BATS One Digital Media Enterprise Fee

The Exchange believes that the proposed Digital Media Enterprise Fee for the BATS One Feed is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act.13 In general, and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,14 in particular, that it provides for an equitable allocation of reasonable fees among recipients of the data and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination among customers, brokers, or dealers. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 11A of the Act15 in that it supports (i) fair competition among brokers and dealers, among exchange markets, and between exchange markets and markets other than exchange markets and (ii) the availability to brokers, dealers, and investors of information with respect to quotations for and transactions in securities. Furthermore, the proposed rule change is consistent with Rule 603 of Regulation NMS,16 which provides that any national securities exchange that distributes information with respect to quotations for or transactions in an NMS stock do so on terms that are not unreasonably discriminatory. In adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission granted self-regulatory organizations and broker-dealers increased authority and flexibility to offer new and unique market data products to the public. It was believed that this authority would expand the amount of data available to consumers, and also spur innovation and competition for the provision of market data.

In addition, the proposed fee is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply uniformly to market data vendors, television broadcasters, Web site and mobile service providers. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to establish a lower cost fee structure that is designed to facilitate broader media distribution of the BATS One Data Feed for informational purposes because it will benefit investors generally.

In establishing the Digital Media Enterprise Fee, the Exchange recognizes that there is demand for a more seamless and easier—-to-administer data distribution model that takes into account the expanded variety of media and communication devices that investors utilize today. The Exchange believes the Digital Media Enterprise Fee will be easy to administer because data recipients that purchase it would not be required to differentiate between Professional and Non-Professional Users, account for the extent of access to the data, or report the number of Users. This is a significant reduction on a recipient firm’s administrative burdens and is a significant value to investors. For example, a television broadcaster could display the BATS One Feed data during market-related programming and on its Web site or allow viewers to view the data via their mobile devices, creating a more seamless distribution model that will allow investors more choice in how they receive and view market data, all without having to account for and/or measure who accesses the data and how often they do so.

The proposed Digital Media Enterprise Fee is equitable and reasonable because it will also enable recipient firms to more widely distribute data from the BATS One Feed to investors for informational purposes at a lower cost than is available today. For example, a recipient firm may purchase an Enterprise license in the amount of $50,000 per month for the BATS One Summary Feed and $100,000 per month for the BATS One Premium Feed to receive the BATS One Feed from an External Distributor for an unlimited number of Professional and Non-Professional Users, which is greater than the Digital Media Enterprise fee proposed herein. The Exchange also believes the amount of the Digital Enterprise [sic] is reasonable as compared to the existing Enterprise fees discussed above because the distribution of BATS One Feed data is limited to television, Web sites, and mobile devices for informational purposes only, while distribution of the BATS One Feed data pursuant to an Enterprise license contains no such limitation. The Exchange also believes that the proposed Digital Media Enterprise fee is equitable and reasonable because it is less than similar fees charged by other exchanges.17

The Exchange has taken into consideration its affiliated relationship with EDGA, BYX, and BZX in proposing the Digital Media Enterprise fee to assure that vendors would be able to offer a similar product on the same terms to the Exchange from a cost perspective. While the BATS Exchanges are the exclusive distributors of the individual data feeds from which certain data elements may be taken to create the BATS One Feed, they are not the exclusive distributors of the aggregated and consolidated information that comprises the BATS One Feed. As discussed in in [sic] the BATS One Fee Proposal,18 any entity may separately purchase the individual underlying products, and if they so choose, perform a similar aggregation and consolidation function that the Exchange performs in creating the BATS One Feed, and offer a data feed with the same information included in the BATS One Feed to sell and distribute it to its clients with no greater cost than the Exchange.

To enable such competition, the Exchange is offering the Digital Media Enterprise license for the BATS One Feed on terms that a subscriber of the underlying feeds could offer a competing product if it so chooses. The BATS One Feed is comprised of data included in EDGX Depth, EDGA Depth, BYX Depth, and BZX Depth.19 Currently, an External Distributor could create a competing product to the BATS One Premium Feed20 by purchasing each of these depth of book products

18 See BATS One Fee Proposal, supra note 6.
19 See EDGX Rule 13.8, EDGA Rule 13.8, BZX Rule 11.22(a) and (c), and BYX Rule 11.22(a) and (c) for a description of the depth of book fees offered by each of the BATS Exchanges.
20 Like the Exchange, an External Distributor would also be able to create a competing product to the BATS One Summary Feed from the data received via EDGX Depth, EDGA Depth, BYX Depth, and BZX Depth, without having to separately purchase the top and last sale feeds from each of the BATS Exchanges.
from the individual BATS Exchanges and then performing its own aggregation and consolidation functions. The combined External Distributor fees for these individual data feeds of the BATS Exchanges is $12,500 per month.24 An External Distributor that seeks to create a competing product to the BATS One Summary Feed could instead subscribe to the following data feeds: EDGX Top, EDGA Last Sale, EDGA Top, EDGA Last Sale, BZX Top, BZX Last Sale, BYX Top, and BYX Last Sale,22 and then perform its own aggregation and consolidation function. The combined External Distributor fees for these individual data feeds of the BATS Exchanges is $5,000 per month.23 The Exchange proposes to charge a Digital Media Enterprise Fee ($15,000 per month for the BATS One Summary Feed and $25,000 per month for the BATS One Premium Feed, plus the $1,000 per month Data Consolidation fee) that exceeds the combined External Distributor fees for each of the individual feeds listed above to ensure that vendors could compete with the Exchange by creating the same product as the BATS One Feed to sell to their clients at no greater cost than the Exchange.

The decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525 (D.C. Cir. 2010), upheld the Commission’s reliance upon the existence of competitive market mechanisms to set reasonable and equitably allocated fees for proprietary market data.

In fact, the legislative history indicates that the Congress intended that the market system ‘evolve through the interplay of competitive forces as unnecessary regulatory restrictions are removed’ and that the SEC wield its regulatory power ‘in those situations where competition may not be sufficient,’ such as in the creation of a ‘consolidated transactional reporting system.’

Id. at 535 (quoting H.R. Rep. No. 94–229 at 92 (1975), as reprinted in 1975 U.S.C.C.A.N. 323). The court agreed with the Commission’s conclusion that ‘Congress intended that ‘competitive forces should dictate the services and practices that constitute the U.S. national market system for trading equity securities.’” 24

As explained below in the Exchange’s Statement on Burden on Competition, the Exchange believes that there is substantial evidence of competition in the marketplace for data and that the Commission can rely upon such evidence in concluding that the fees established in this filing are the product of competition and therefore satisfy the relevant statutory standards.25 In addition, the existence of alternatives to the BATS One Feed, including real-time consolidated data, fee delayed consolidated data, and proprietary last sale data from other sources, as described below, further ensures that the Exchange cannot set unreasonable fees, or fees that are unreasonably discriminatory, when vendors and users can elect such alternatives.

As the NetCoalition decision noted, the Commission is not required to undertake a cost-of-service or ratemaking analysis, and the Exchange incorporates by reference into this proposed rule change its affiliate’s analysis of this topic in another rule filing.26

For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory.

Non-Substantive Change to the Description of the BATS One Enterprise Fee

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to the BATS One Enterprise Fee is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in particular, in that it provides for an equitable allocation of reasonable fees among recipients of the data and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination among customers, brokers, or dealers. The proposal to amend the description of the Enterprise fee within the fee schedule is equitable and reasonable because the changes are designed to clarify the fee schedule and avoid potential investor confusion. The proposed changes do not amend the amount or application of the BATS One Enterprise fee. The proposed changes are also non-discriminatory as they would apply to all recipient firms uniformly.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. BATS One Digital Media Enterprise Fee

The BATS One Feed Digital Media Enterprise fee will enhance competition because it provides investors with an alternative option for receiving market data and competes directly with similar market data products currently offered by the NYSE and Nasdaq.29 The Exchange notes that there is already actual competition for products similar to the BATS One Feed. The NYSE offers BQT which provides BBO and last sale information for the NYSE, NYSE Arca Equities, Inc. and NYSE MKT LLC.30 Nasdaq offers Nasdaq Basic, a filed market data product, and through its affiliate, offers NLS Plus which provides a unified view of last sale information similar to the BATS One Feed.31 The existence of these competing data products demonstrates that there is ample, existing competition for products such as the BATS One Feed and the fees associated by such products is constrained by competition.

In establishing the proposed fees, the Exchange considered the competitiveness of the market for proprietary data and all of the implications of that competition. The Exchange believes that it has considered all relevant factors in order to establish

24 Section 916 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) amended paragraph (A) of Section 19(b)(3) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3), to make clear that all exchange fees for market data may be filed by exchanges on an immediately effective basis.


Therefore, the amount of the proposed DCMS Enterprise license the Exchange would charge clients for the BATS One Feed compared to the cost of the individual data feeds from the BATS Exchanges would enable a vendor to receive the underlying data feeds and offer a similar product on a competitive basis and with no greater cost than the Exchange.

Non-Substantive Change to the Description of the BATS One Enterprise Fee

The proposal to amend the description of the Enterprise fee within the fee schedule will not have any impact on completion [sic]. The proposed changes are designed to clarify the fee schedule and avoid potential investor confusion and do not amend the amount or application of the BATS One Enterprise fee.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission’s Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–EDGX–2015–14 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–EDGX–2015–14. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission’s Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission’s Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–EDGX–2015–14, and should be submitted on or before April 23, 2015.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.

Brent J. Fields, Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–07522 Filed 4–1–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[File No. 500–1]

In the Matter of Urban AG Corp.; Order of Suspension of Trading

March 31, 2015.

It appears to the Securities and Exchange Commission that there is a lack of current and accurate information concerning the securities of Urban AG Corporation (“Urban AG”) because it has not filed a periodic report since it filed its Form 10–Q for the period ending September 30, 2013, filed on